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SUNDAY
MAY 31, 1953

Arrived at Shannon at 12:45 and left at 1:45 a.m. The Irish have opened a liquor store at the airport and do a thriving business in duty-free bottles. There are also tweeds, blankets, lace, linen, glass, watches, etc., to be bought. Gander was closed in by bad weather, so we made a ten-hour flight to Sydney, Nova Scotia, where we dallied an hour. I met there Henry Laverne, who had been in OSS and now lives in Richmond. We had a smooth passage and I got to The Brook Club around 2:40 p.m. New York time, which, with the five hours' difference, meant I had been journeying or halting for almost twenty-two hours.

The weather in New York was dampish and moderately cool. John Hughes came to see me at six, and under the impetus of The Brook martinis I conquered sleepiness. We talked until eleven about his forthcoming position as United States Ambassador for Regional Affairs in Europe. Jim Bruce had come in The Brook earlier in the afternoon to cast his eye, as President of the Club, over the institution. He had caught 20 trout earlier in the day at the Southside Club on Long Island.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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